

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA BUTTE DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

VS.

CHASTON ANTONIO FORT,

Defendant.

CR 15-22-BU-DLC

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING PLEA

The Defendant, by consent, has appeared before me under Fed. R. Crim. P. 11 and has entered a plea of guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 371 and 1343 (Count I), and two counts of aggravated identity theft and aiding and abetting the same in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2 and 1028A(a)(1) (Counts 24 and 25) as set forth in the Indictment. In exchange for Defendant's plea, the United States has agreed to dismiss Counts 2-23, and 26-27 of the Indictment.

After examining the Defendant under oath, I have made the following determinations:

1. That the Defendant is fully competent and capable of entering informed and voluntary pleas,

2. That the Defendant is aware of the nature of the charges against him and consequences of pleading guilty to the charges,

3. That the Defendant fully understands his constitutional rights, and the extent to which he is waiving those rights by pleading guilty, and

4. That the pleas of guilty are knowing and voluntary pleas, supported by an independent basis in fact sufficient to prove each of the essential elements of the offenses charged.

The Court further concludes that the Defendant had adequate time to review the Plea Agreement with counsel, that he fully understands each and every provision of the agreement and that all of the statements in the Plea Agreement are true. Therefore, I recommend that the Defendant be adjudged guilty of Count 1 of the Indictment, and that sentence be imposed. I further recommend that Counts 2-23, and 26-27 of the Indictment be dismissed.

This report is forwarded with the recommendation that the Court defer

a decision regarding acceptance until the Court has reviewed the Plea

Agreement and the presentence report.

DATED this 28th day of September, 2015.

Jeremiah C. Lynch

United States Magistrate Judge